Availability of Telephones

*165. SHRI C.Q. POULOSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the availability of telephones per one lakh population during the period of 1998—2001, State-wise; and

(b) whether Government have failed to take Bihar and West Bengal into priority list to improve the situation as these States stand at the lowest in the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The information regarding availability of telephones per one lakh population during the period 1998—2001 State-wise is given in the Statement *(See below)*

While tele-density in Bihar and West Bengal is relatively lower than the national average, every effort is being made to accelerate the development of telecommunication facilities in these States. A Special Task Force has been set up under the charge of a Senior Deputy Director General to, *inter-alia,* give special attention to accelerated development of telecom facilities in these States and every effort is made to supply equipments necessary for this purpose.

Statement

State-wise Tele Density (No. of Telephones) per One Lakh Persons

SI. No.	*Name of Stale*	*March,98*	*March,99*	*March,2000*	*March,2001*
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	2290	4220	6340	8442
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1580	2110	2950	4056.5
3.	Assam	630	820	1040	1330
4.	Bihar	410	510	630	865.6
5.	Gujarat	2740	3230	3960	5166.27
6.	Haryana	2230	2680	3240	4046.4

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2860	3440	4250	5919.6
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	950	1110	1310	1723
9.	Karnataka	2420	2850	3510	4676.7
10.	Kerala	3410	4230	5270	7636.3
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1040	1200	1370	2011.33
12.	Maharashtra	4240	3738	4900	7239.24
13.	North East	990	1250	1560	2078.78
14.	Orissa	760	940	1108	1494.78
15.	Punjab	3740	4490	5290	6771.3
16.	Rajasthan	1460	1760	2070	2471
17.	Tamil Nadu	3510	2710	4280	5904.58
18.	Uttar Pradesh	1010	820	1230	1653.58
19.	West Bengal	1610	1970	2330	2660.48
20.	Delhi	12070	12230	13020	17395
	TOTAL (average):	1840	2200	2660	3560

NOTE: Gujarat State includes Dadar Diu, Daman & Nagar Haveli (U.T.).
Kerala State includes Lakshadweep (U.T.).
Maharashtra State includes Goa and Mumbai
North-East telecom circle includes Arurtachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura State.
Punjab State includes Chandigarh (U.T.).
Tamil Nadu State includes Chennai and Pondicherry (U.T.).
West Bengal State includes Calcutta and Sikkim State.
Bihar State includes Jharkhand State (Formed'in March, 01).
Madhya Pradesh State includes Chhattisgarh State. (Formed in March, 01).
Uttar Pradesh State includes Uttaranchal State. (Formed in March, 01).

Amendment of CAT Act

*166. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Adminsitrative Tribunal Act, 1985, is proposed to be amended in the near future;